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HOW WOULD YOU END THE SHUTDOWN?

Now groaning into Day 34, the federal shutdown is getting worse and worse. We asked Philadelphians their take on how to end this mess. 6-7

ISTOCK AND MICHAEL BUTLER

'Broad City' final season kicks off tonight. 13

'Ted Bundy Tapes' takes you inside the killer's mind. 14

New DIY Network series hopes to revive Philly. 15

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5 THINGS TO KNOW

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MICHAEL BUTLER, REPORTER

The story of the government shutdown is becoming more relevant with each day it continues. To get a better idea of how members of the community feel about the shutdown and its effects, I hit the streets to ask various people the same question: "What would you do to end the government shutdown?" From calls for Trump's impeachment to support for the wall, the responses varied but all showed how much Philadelphians are paying attention to one of the biggest political events in recent history.

34 DAYS PARTIAL GOVT SHUTDOWN

FIVE KILLED IN CENTRAL FLORIDA BANK SHOOTING

1 A gunman killed five people in a bank in central Florida on Wednesday, then called police himself and eventually surrendered, local authorities said. The shooting occurred at the SunTrust Bank in Sebring, a town of about 10,000 people 95 miles south of Orlando, around 12:30 p.m. ET, Sebring Police Chief Karl Hoglund said at a news conference. The 21-year-old suspect, identified as Zephen Xaver, called police and said he had fired shots inside the bank, according to authorities. After negotiators failed to convince the suspect to leave the bank, the Highlands County Sheriff's Office SWAT team entered the building and continued to talk to him, police said. He eventually surrendered and is in custody. Police did not offer any details about a possible motive. "Today has been a tragic day in our community," Hoglund said. "We've suffered significant loss at the hands of a senseless criminal doing a senseless crime." No information has been released about the victims. It was not clear whether anyone was wounded. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said he has asked the state's department of law enforcement to assist local police officials in the investigation.

CITADEL'S GRIFFIN BUYS NY CONDO FOR RECORD $238M

2 Ken Griffin, the billionaire founder of hedge fund Citadel, has paid $238 million for a penthouse condominium overlooking Manhattan's Central Park, a spokesman for Griffin said on Wednesday, in a deal that sets a record for a U.S. home sale. Griffin has closed on the unit in the 79-story residential tower, which is under construction for an estimated cost of $1.4 billion at 220 Central Park South. The purchase follows on the heels of reports that Griffin bought a mansion in London within sight of Buckingham Palace for $124.2 million, among other recent deals. The price paid for the New York condo eclipses the prior record for a U.S. residential purchase, set by another hedge fund billionaire, Barry Rosenstein, for a home in East Hampton, on New York's Long Island in 2014. The Griffin purchase also shatters the record for the most expensive apartment sold in New York City, which was last set by computer company founder Michael Dell's purchase last year of a condo for $100.47 million, according to published reports.

VENEZUELAN OPPOSITION LEADER DECLARES HIMSELF INTERIM PRESIDENT

3 Demonstrators protest against the government of Nicolas Maduro at Plaza Altamira after opposition leader and head of the National Assembly Juan Guaido declared himself interim president on Wednesday in Caracas, Venezuela. Several countries such us the United States, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala officially accepted Guaido. Head of Supreme Justice tribunal Juan Jose Mendoza urged the general attorney to act against a constitution violation.

EDILZON GAMEZ/GETTY IMAGES

'THREATS' FORCE COHEN TO POSTPONE TESTIMONY

4 President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer Michael Cohen is postponing his Feb. 7 testimony to the U.S. Congress because of threats against his family from Trump, his adviser said on Wednesday. Cohen, who has pleaded guilty to crimes including campaign finance violations during Trump's 2016 election campaign and is cooperating with investigators, had received "ongoing threats against his family from Trump" and Trump's lawyer Rudy Giuliani, the adviser, attorney Lanny Davis, said in a statement. Trump called Cohen a "rat" in a tweet last month for cooperating with prosecutors. Cohen had been Trump's self-described longtime "fixer" and once said he would take a bullet for the New York real estate developer. In a Fox News interview this month, and other forums, Trump also suggested he had damaging information on Cohen's father-in-law. "That's the one that people want to look at," Trump said in the interview. Giuliani also referred to possible issues with him. Cohen's father-in-law, Fima Shusterman, could not immediately be reached for comment. He has been involved in the taxicab business like Cohen himself.

SONS OF 'EL CHAPO' KILLED MEXICAN JOURNO: WITNESS

5 Sons of accused Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman murdered a journalist well known for his coverage of drug cartels, a former associate testified at Guzman's U.S. trial on Wednesday. Damaso Lopez Nunez, a former top lieutenant to Guzman, made the accusation in Brooklyn federal court under cross-examination by one of Guzman's lawyers. The lawyer, Eduardo Balarezo, had asked Lopez whether his own son, Damaso Lopez Serrano, might have been involved in the May 2017 murder of Javier Valdez. Valdez, known for his signature straw hat, was the founder of the RioDoce online newspaper and author of the book "Narcoreporting," about the dangers faced by journalists covering Mexico's drug war. His murder provoked public outcry about cartel violence. RioDoce reported last year that Lopez Serrano was likely behind the killing. Lopez said neither he nor his son had anything to do with Valdez's murder. He testified that Guzman's sons killed Valdez for publishing an article about drug cartel infighting against their wishes.

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NEWS

DA looking for fight with NRA over 'lost/stolen gun' law

Larry Krasner invites challenge from NRA by picking back up decade-old (and unenforced) Philly gun ordinance.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

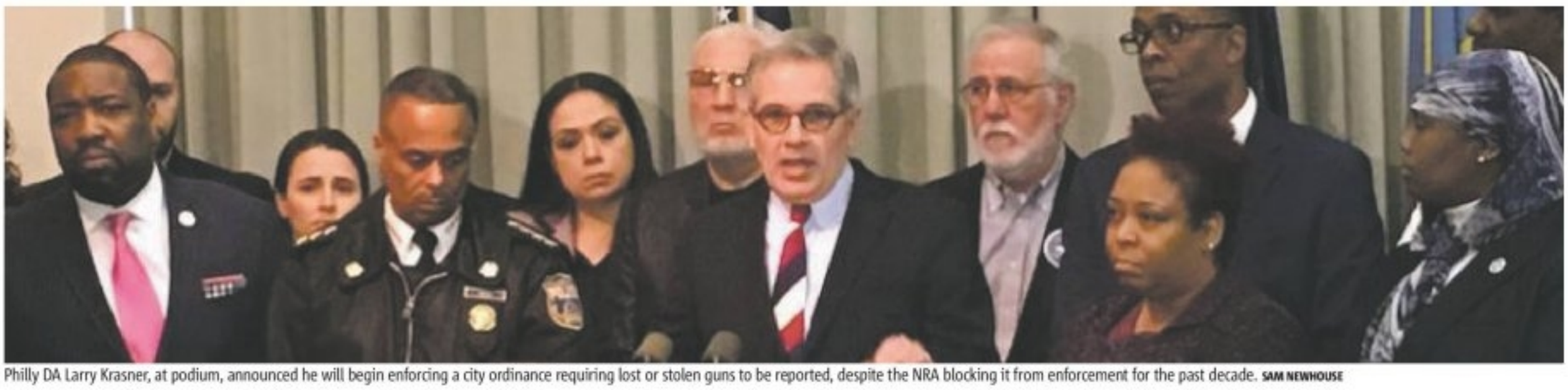
Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner announced on Wednesday that his office is planning to begin enforcement of Philadelphia's "lost and stolen firearms" ordinance, which ironically has itself been lost to the public since being enacted into law in 2009.

The ordinance is a decade old and requires gun owners to report any lost or stolen firearm to authorities within 24 hours, or face a fine of $2,000. Repeat offenders can face another $2,000 fine and up to 90 days in prison. The ordinance is intended to help damp down on what Krasner and others said is one source of illegal guns in Philadelphia — legal purchasers reselling their guns and later claiming they were lost or stolen.

The law has never been enforced in Philadelphia, Krasner and others said, because former Philly prosecutors were cowed by NRA legal actions to oppose the ordinance on unconstitutional grounds.

"The mayor [then Michael Nutter] was ready, [former Police Commissioner Charles] Ramsey at that point in time was ready, we were ready to move ahead," City Council President Darrell Clarke, who along with former Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller introduced the ordinance to help crack down on gun violence and got it enacted in 2009, said at a Wednesday press conference at Krasner's office. "Lynne Abraham, who was DA at the time of this conversation, basically said she wasn't going to do it. The subsequent DA [Seth Williams] indicated during the course of the election that he was going to do it, but after he got elected, for whatever reason, we got a similar response, that because of the Constitution, he wasn't prepared to proceed. Luckily, this DA puts people … ahead of that particular mindset."

As Krasner, Clarke and others explained it Wednesday, the former Philly DAs either didn't think enforcement of the ordinance would withstand legal challenges



Philly DA Larry Krasner, at podium, announced he will begin enforcing a city ordinance requiring lost or stolen guns to be reported, despite the NRA blocking it from enforcement for the past decade. SAM NEWHOUSE

filed by the NRA, or wanted to maintain a positive reputation in pro-NRA political circles. (Neither Abraham, who is retired, or Williams, currently serving five years in federal prison on corruption charges, could be reached for comment.)

"What we really need is the Pennsylvania legislature and the United States government to stand up to the NRA and do the right thing, but we are going to operate within our lane to do as much as we can," Krasner said. "The positions the NRA has taken are similar to saying we cannot have license plates on cars, we cannot do inspections of cars, and we can't even regulate the age of the drivers or whether or not they can see. Their position on reasonable approaches to regulation of guns is absurd. ... Its foolishness is out of touch with what people who appropriately handle and own guns believe."

Representatives of the NRA did not immediately comment on Krasner's announcement, but did previously file an injunction to block this ordinance, and have as recently as 2015 filed Philadelphia to block local gun control ordinances.

The Philly DA said he expects their response to be like a "loud screeching noise of a broken engine." He further jabbed at them for being investigated over "their involvement with Russian money" and noted their "difficulties in collecting donations, which I guess is what happens when you're in favor of more and more guns completely unregulated in the middle of a spate of school shootings across the country."

As for the lost/stolen gun ordinance, Philly Police Commissioner Richard Ross backed up Krasner's assertions that at least in some cases, guns used in crime are traced back to Philly residents who "lost" them or had them "stolen," but never contacted police, and may have in fact illegally resold the guns.

"Don't think that everyone who sells a gun is a trafficker. They may be an opportunist," Ross said.

Krasner also said a 30-day amnesty will be in place before the law takes effect, during which people can contact authorities to report any previously lost or stolen guns without facing repercussions under this ordinance, unless those weapons relate to an active investigation.

To report a stolen or missing gun, call 911 or contact your local police district.

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Philadelphians sound off on ending the shutdown

As the federal shutdown drags on, Philly residents share their ideas.

MICHAEL BUTLER
letters@metro.us

The nation is heading into Day 34 of the longest partial government shutdown in its history, and opinions are as divided as politicians seem to be on how to get out of this mess driven by President Trump's stalemate with House Democrats over his demand for southern border wall funding.

Among all the arguing, we set out to ask Philadelphians: What do you think is needed to end the shutdown?

Who is to blame for shutdown?

More broadly, an Emerson College poll of roughly 1,000 registered voters released on Jan. 22 found that 42 percent blame Trump for the shutdown, 36 percent blame Democrats, 6 percent blame Republicans, and 16 percent blame everyone.

A slim majority of voters, 55 to 45 percent, support trading temporary protections for "Dreamers," undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children, for wall funding — while a higher number, 66 to 34 percent, support trading full citizenship or amnesty for Dreamers for wall funding. Trump's approval rating, meanwhile, was at 42 percent, while his disapproval rating was at 52 percent.

Bilal Qayyuml. PROVIDED

"Impeach Trump. If he really believes that he would be impeached, I think that he would begin to back off some of this stuff. But I don't think he thinks he would be impeached. ... The interesting thing to me, and I'm old enough to remember Watergate, is that the people demanded some action. I don't hear that demand from the people. This is what, 33 days now? It's a deliberate thing that we demand the Senate, Congress and president work it out."

Bilal Qayyuml,
Anti-violence activist, president of Father's Day Rally Committee, and Philadelphia Police Advisory Commission member

Grace Gardner. MICHAEL BUTLER

"This president is being derelict of his duties. This shutdown is about immigration, but the reality of it is the government being shut down has nothing to do with immigration and he is being selfish and egotistical. If we're so intent on the wall at that price point, is it because he's beholden to people he promised contracts to build the wall? I think nobody is bringing that up and it's quite obvious."

Grace Gardner, 66,
Street vendor

Adam Johnson. MICHAEL BUTLER

"I honestly don't believe we would have this guy in office if the party he ran for said, 'You know what, we're not going to allow this.' They could've done that. The same guy is making all of these empty promises, saying Mexico is going to pay for it and block themselves out. Why? That's dumb. Sad to say, there's a large number of people that actually believed it, which was also dumb. I didn't vote for that, so I shouldn't have to pay for it. So why don't you pay for it, Mr. Billionaire?"

Adam Johnson, 35,
Sales specialist

Darrell Clarke. PROVIDED

"At the end of the day, people need to get in a room and get in a consensus on what they need to do. The president threw out some issues around things that he actually took away. I'm not telling people how to do their job, but I think he's trying to do some kind of opening for whatever reason. I don't think that the Democrats would not be able to put some kind of money on the table for some kind of security. I don't think zero is going to get it done."

Darrell Clarke,
City Council president

Allan Rue. MICHAEL BUTLER

"I would impeach Trump, but that's not going to happen. I can't think of anything we could possibly do. I don't think either side is going to budge. This is the most divided time in my life that I could ever remember."

Allan Rue, 49,
Computer programmer

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Trump vows State of Union alternative

House Speaker Pelosi denied access to the House for his State of the Union.

President Donald Trump said on Wednesday he would do an alternative event to the State of the Union address after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told him he may not give the speech in the House of Representatives until the government shutdown is over.

The clash between two of Washington's most powerful leaders represented an escalation in a standoff that has resulted in a 33-day partial government closure that threatens the U.S. economy and the livelihoods of 800,000 federal workers.

On Pelosi's move to lock him out of the House, Trump said at a White House meeting on border security, "It's a disgrace."

Pelosi told the president that for now, she would not consider a measure authorizing the speech, an annual, televised rite in American politics traditionally delivered in the House chamber.

"Again, I look forward to welcoming you to the House on a mutually agreeable date for this address when government has been opened," Pelosi said to Trump in a letter.

Earlier in the day, Trump essentially dared her to disinvite him from making the speech, which was set for Jan. 29.

The State of the Union speech, used by presidents to announce their policy goals for the year, has become a hostage to the showdown between Trump and congressional Democrats over his demand for money for a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

About a quarter of the government has been shut down since Dec. 22, when some agencies' funding expired for reasons unrelated to border security or immigration. Trump at first expressed support for legislation

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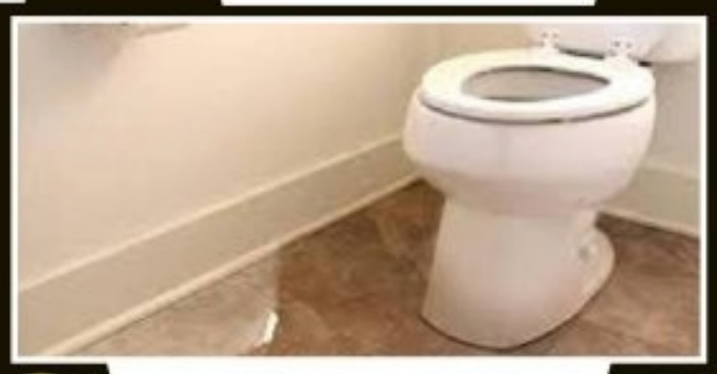
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to restore the agencies' funding. Then he demanded that any shutdown-ending measure must contain $5.7 billion for the border wall, funding Democrats oppose.

House Democrats have approved several measures to fully reopen the government, but none have won approval in the Senate, which is controlled by Trump's fellow Republicans. Test votes on related measures were scheduled for Thursday in the Senate.

Pelosi suggested on Jan. 16 that Trump postpone the speech because of the closure, citing concerns about security for the event. Earlier on Wednesday, Trump tried to brush aside Pelosi's concerns and said he planned to deliver the address before the U.S. Congress as scheduled next Tuesday.

"It would be so very sad for our Country if the State of the Union were not delivered on time, on schedule, and very importantly, on location!" Trump wrote to Pelosi.

The president is required to give Congress a report on the nation, but is not required to deliver it in a live, televised address before lawmakers. Many past presidents have delivered it in writing. REUTERS

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Pat King
Grumble Editor

READER WRITE-INS:

'CSI: DOG POOP ON THE SIDEWALK'

Like humans can be linked to crime by DNA left at the scene, can dogs be identified by DNA in their poop? I had this thought after navigating the minefield left by dog owners in the middle of the sidewalk outside my apartment building.

When a dog owner applies for a license and a chip gets implanted in their animal companion to track them if they get lost, can the dog's DNA also be on file so their owners can be traced and fined for not picking up after them??

— **Chris,** *Metro New York reader*

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THAT CO-WORKER WHO BRINGS IN SNACKS FOR THE OFFICE

I was having a rough day at work recently and walked into the office kitchen to find a package of Oreos had been left, with a note saying, "Enjoy." Somehow, snacks always make a bad day better. Thank you!

— **Ed,** *Metro Boston reader*

ISTOCK

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Aries Challenge yourself physically and get rid of some of the anxiety you are feeling. It's best to calm down before you complain or criticize. Keep the peace and show compassion.

Taurus Take care of your responsibilities without complaint. If you let the actions of others get to you, it will lead to discord. Focus on getting ahead, not on causing trouble.

Gemini You may want to initiate a change, but make sure it's what you really want. You must be willing to do some physical work. Your reputation is at stake.

Cancer You can make a change at home, but run your plans by the people who will be affected by your actions. Your openness will determine whether you receive help or hindrance.

Leo The only way to get things done is to do them yourself. Refuse to let anyone cost you emotionally or financially. Protect your plans and assets.

Virgo Do something you enjoy or spend quality time with a loved one. Ask questions and find out what others want in order to avoid a misunderstanding.

Libra Use your intelligence to outsmart someone who is giving you a hard time. It pays to gather facts and to hold those who put demands on you accountable. Romance is encouraged.

Scorpio Get your responsibilities out of the way before someone complains, and move on to the things you enjoy doing. Get together with someone who shares your enthusiasm.

Sagittarius Don't let an emotional matter sidetrack you. Focus on fitness, health and moderation. Take charge of your life, and walk away from people trying to tell you what to do.

Capricorn Look over your personal documents and finances, and consider how well you take care of your emotional and physical health. If change is required, put a plan in place.

Aquarius Deal with institutions and government agencies carefully. There will be no room for error if you want to avoid a loss. Make sure your finances, medical records and contracts are in order.

Pisces Indulgent behavior will lead to emotional problems. Protect your heart and important relationships. Walk away from people offering empty promises. Do what's right. EUGENIA LAST

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Blurring the lines

Lotus will be performing in Philly this weekend. BEN WONG

Lotus will be performing at Union Transfer on Jan. 25 and 26.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Philly attracts many talented musical acts that change the way we look at music, including the band Lotus.

This instrumental jam band has been around for 20 years and is returning to the City of Brotherly Love (where they spent much of their early years) to perform at Union Transfer on Jan. 25 and 26. Jesse Miller, composer and bassist for the band, chatted with Metro about what to expect from their show, how the studio can be used as an instrument and how Lotus blurs the lines between typical music genres.

Can you tell me a little about the band's history?
We are coming up on 20 years doing Lotus, we got started when we were in college and moved out to Philadelphia- I think It was in 2002. We just started hitting the road and building the band up. We're primarily an instrumental band but its hard to put Lotus in one genre because we're taking from a lot of different influences. From rock, funk, jazz and electronica, we bring it all together for these shows.

What sets your new project "Frames Per second" apart from your previous projects?
For "Frames Per Second," we set up and tracked live in the studio and we were filming at the same time. We've done studio recordings a lot of different ways, and I think a lot of times in the past we've used it as an opportunity to treat the studio as more of an instrument — doing more things with overdubs and changing instrumentation. But for this record, we really wanted to keep it stripped down, keep it really live, kind of just focus on the band playing together. It's all instrumental, I would say Jazz and funk and disco are kind of the main genre features. But again it really blurs the lines.

You mentioned the recording was filmed live; how was that experience?
So, basically, the album has an accompanying film, so every song was recorded. You can listen to the audio version and watch the film version. We've never done that before, and it was a fun project to work on to show the instruments close up while we're tracking them and use that as another perspective of the band that's not up on stage with a bunch of lights going off. It allowed this up-close look at what we're doing.

Do you have a favorite track from "Frames Per Second"?
I don't know about one particular favorite, I wrote about half the tracks, so I'm definitely partial to the ones I wrote. But maybe "Faceblind" because its one that I use a lot of modular synths in. You can imagine the old telephone switchboard operator plugging together all these modules, so that's pretty featured on that track. It just combines a lot of my interests, it has rock influences but also has influences from classical minimalism and kind of brings it all together and I think that style is pretty unique to Lotus.

How does it feel to be performing in the City of Brotherly Love?
It's great, I live here so the fact that I can ride my bike to the show is a plus. We did a two-night stand at Union Transfer last year and that was our first time playing that room and I really love that room. I think the sound is great with that size, it's perfect for Lotus. It's big enough that you can get a good crowd in there but small enough that everyone has a good view and it feels like you can get a good sense of the crowd while you're playing the show.

What can the people of Philadelphia expect from your show?
Lotus shows always have a lot of dance energy that we try to bring. We do a lot of improvisation so we try to feed off the energy of the crowd and really bring these grooves that get people dancing. Even when we're playing more mellow music we like to have this groove backbone. So Lotus shows are usually a party, and there's dancing involved.

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The truth behind 'King of Thieves'

Charlie Cox and writer Joe Penhall break down their film on the Hatton Garden robbery.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

"King of Thieves" is in select theaters and available on VOD Jan. 25. STUDIO CANAL

Even though four years haven't even passed since the crime was committed, "King of Thieves" is the third film about the Hatton Garden safe-deposit burglary, which saw at least four elderly men take over $250 million in goods.

With all due respect to the others, the fact that it stars Michael Caine, Ray Winstone, Tom Courtenay, Michael Gambon, Jim Broadbent and Charlie Cox, makes it is the most legitimate production about the incident thus far.

How true is 'King of Thieves?'

Cox, who was cast just a few days before rehearsal began, was instantly starstruck, as he couldn't believe he was even "allowed to be in the same room" as the other legendary actors.

"I was kicking around, chatting with these guys, rehearsing with them, shooting scenes, and they are all my heroes."

The parallels between the elderly cast of "King of Thieves" and their real-life characters only added to the sense of occasion for Cox.

"I think given their age, and all due respect to them obviously, there was something nice about the idea that for these thieves in real life this was literally their last big hurrah," says Cox. "Of course, all of these actors will go on to do many more films, but there was a sense that this was one big last hurrah from an acting point of view, with those guys as the lead roles. So it was art imitating life."

Caine has eyed the leading part of Brian Reader, the leader of the misfit group of criminals, for years, while writer Joe Penhall used two articles, as well as "an extraordinary 100-page transcript from Scotland Yard," to make the film as truthful as possible.

"I think the film is pretty truthful," Penhall tells Metro. "But what interested me most is that, while it is a very infamous robbery they were a very banal bunch of people. I'm kind of interested in the banality of thieves and con man.

"There's a risk in trying to make a film about people like that. But this cast got as close as you can to pulling off that sense of banal, suburban, aging men, who have run out of options, as opposed to general heist movie fodder."

The transcripts at Penhall's disposal allowed the screenwriter to meticulously learn "how the gang spoke and thought," while they also possessed little gems of material that "you really couldn't make up."

"At one point they discussed a large haul, with very cheap rings and they didn't know what to do with them," says Penhall. "They were trying to work out whether or not they could melt the gold or burn the diamonds. I mean these guys were experts.

"They were also endlessly self-serving. Every single one of them seemed to be lying," he adds. "They lied to each other. They lied about each other. They all thought that they were the boss. They all thought that they had been hard done by. So the story emerged from the transcript."

James Marsh was the perfect director to bring Penhall's "King of Thieves" script to life, as the filmmaker, who has background is in documentaries, wanted to recreate the heist with all of its "odd details."

"Inevitably there's all this commercial pressure to try to shape it and mold it and jolly it up and give it some of the bells and whistles of a heist movie," admits Penhall, but, for Cox, that was all inherently in the robbery anyway.

"There's a brazenness to it. A boldness to it, that is so, so, not English," Cox adds. "But as Englishmen, we kind of love it."

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The hit series' final season debuts tonight. ALL PHOTOS COMEDY CENTRAL

The final season of 'Broad City' is almost here

The hit Comedy Central series enters its fifth and final season.

ANDREW HUSBAND
drew.husband@metro.us

Tonight is going to be a very important one for Comedy Central. Not only is former "Saturday Night Live" co-head writers Chris Kelly and Sarah Schneider's new show "The Other Two" going to premiere, but "Broad City" season five is going to air the first of its final 10 episodes.

Yes, you read that correctly. The fifth and final season of Abbi Jacobson and Ilana Glazer's comedic TV masterpiece is about to air its final batch of episodes. Their characters, appropriately named Abbi and Ilana, are entering a new phase of their time in New York City. Ilana is starting her own business, while Abbi is turning 30 and coming to grips with the realization that she and her friend are now full-blown adults.

Needless to say, it's going to be an emotional roller coaster for longtime fans of the show. As the pair recently told The Hollywood Reporter, plenty of tears were shed once the decision was made to write the final episodes. "We were sitting across from each other and we were both just crying across from each other at the table," said Jacobson. Glazer added that their reactions "really mirrored the content" of what they were writing and what they hope the viewers at home feel.

What happens in season five?

The first three episodes of the final season were screened for critics, so the particular source of Jacobson and Glazer's tears isn't yet known. Considering what is known, however, it's a good bet that season five is going to pack several significant wallops. Following her 30th birthday, Abbi decides to explore who she is by dating a woman. Ilana, meanwhile, reconnects with Lincoln (Hannibal Buress) to figure out what they mean to each other.

A lot is going to happen this season, which viewers can easily surmise from the final trailer that was released by Comedy Central on Wednesday. Explorations of aging, stealing a stranger's baby for a photo op, kissing a woman for the first time ... "Broad City" season five has it all. So fans of the show will want to make sure to tune in when the premiere airs on Thursday night.

"Broad City" season five premieres tonight at 10 p.m. on Comedy Central.

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Joe Berlinger returns to true crime with Ted Bundy Netflix documentary

Ted Bundy is the subject of the new Netflix docuseries. NETFLIX

The acclaimed filmmaker is a pioneer of sorts when it comes to true crime.

ANDREW HUSBAND
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Filmmaker Joe Berlinger finds himself in a unique position and, he stresses, an entirely unintentional moment in history. On the 30th anniversary of the execution of mass murderer Ted Bundy, Netflix will release his new docuseries "Conversations with a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes." A few days after the Ted Bundy documentary starts streaming, Berlinger's first scripted narrative film in a decade — which is also about the infamous killer — will premiere at the Sundance Film Festival.

It all sounds like the result of years of planning and development. It's not.

"It sounds like some grand master plan on my part," Berlinger tells Metro. "It was all very coincidental. The tapes landed on my desk in January of 2017. Stephen Michaud had reached out to me because he was a fan of my work. He had these tapes. He had written a book years ago based on them, but he realized that nobody was doing anything with the tapes themselves. So I took a listen and I thought that it would make an amazing series. We took it to Netflix and they immediately greenlit it."

That explains the Ted Bundy documentary, but what about "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile"? The independent film — which stars Zac Efron as Bundy and Lily Collins as his girlfriend, Elizabeth Kloepfer — was written by Michael Werwie, whose initial script won plenty of recognition before ending up on The Black List's annual listing of popular unproduced screenplays. Berlinger's agent, after hearing about the "Conversations with a Killer" documentary, told the director he should read it.

Joe Berlinger. GETTY IMAGES

"That made a lightbulb go off, because he went to his pile of scripts, blew the dust off 'Extremely Wicked' and sent it to me," says Berlinger. "I read it and loved it. I loved the way it made this story, because it wasn't your typical serial-killer movie. It doesn't follow the police as they stumble upon crime scene after crime scene, after which they finally catch the killer. It's through the point of view of the girlfriend and we see Bundy as a believable, loving companion."

How the Ted Bundy documentary revisits the true-crime genre's origins

"The ability to use the Bundy story to talk about deception and the masks that people put on, especially those who do evil, was an interesting way into this," Berlinger adds. Yet taking on both the scripted and documented versions of the Bundy story also provided Berlinger with something few other true-crime filmmakers have had the chance to do. It gave him the chance to tell different versions of the same story, though not at the expense of the victims or the greater losses incurred by his infamy.

This is especially important to Berlinger since many consider him to be a pioneer of the true-crime genre that, thanks to the likes of the "Serial" podcast and Netflix's "Making a Murderer" documentary series, is enjoying a renaissance of sorts. He recognizes the impact his previous films, like the "Paradise Lost" trilogy, have had on this subject matter. However, the filmmaker is cautious of adopting a celebratory mood about it.

"I wince at that title as much as I understand why I have it, because true-crime filmmaking can sometimes be interpreted as wallowing [in] the misery of others, especially the victims," he says. "However, we can trace the explosion of this kind of content to Bundy himself. For me, Bundy is the big bang for the insatiable appetite that audiences have for this type of programming."

"Conversations with a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes" is now on Netflix.

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Rachel Street talks *'Philly Revival'* and the value of a home with good bones

"Philly Revival" premieres this Saturday on the DIY Network.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Each year, we notice the gradual facelifts given to our cities through constant building and rebuilding of their skylines.

Old buildings and homes are revamped or demolished to make way for new prospects that will ultimately determine the character of our neighborhoods. In the new show "Philly Revival," airing Jan. 26 on the DIY network, general contractor, real estate agent, designer and former opera singer Rachel Street is on a mission to revitalize some of Philadelphia's historic homes to reinstate a sense of pride in the city's unique architecture.

In Saturday's premiere episode, "It's Phlippin' Small," Street reimagines a tiny row house in South Philly's Whitman district by opening things up and expanding the second floor to add 150 square feet.

While she makes way for more modern improvements to this historic home, she also finds ways to incorporate some of the old charms of the neighborhood by including a 150-year-old door in the renovation. This sense of identity is something Street believes is as valuable as the home itself.

"Definitely one of the biggest things I focus on in my renovations is honoring the history of the homes," says Street. "We're lucky to have a lot of older buildings here, which is kind of a blessing and a curse. A blessing because you get those original details that today might be prohibitively expensive to recreate. But it also takes a lot of work to restore them. A lot of our housing stock in Philly is not in great shape. So it opens the door to a lot of people to flip houses and, unfortunately, a lot of people tend to rip out those original details. What my business tries to do is combine the old and the new. If we have those original details, like pocket doors or special trim, we like to incorporate them into the design and then combine them with some more modern elements that update the home."

To Street, historic neighborhoods like the Whitman district will only thrive if we take the time to preserve their already amazingly constructed buildings. After all, shouldn't homebuyers be looking for something that has proven it's worth over time?

"I think about our buildings that have been here for generations. They have withstood the tests of time. A lot of those old-growth wood and beautiful brick buildings — they just don't build houses that way anymore. We have modern technology and modern products, but there's kind of a limit as to what you can do with some of the modern homes. They don't have the depth of character that old homes do. That's what really attracts me to older buildings, they have a history and a story."

Rachel Street. DIY NETWORK

PALM SPRINGS CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Find out why there is no place on Earth quite like *Palm Springs*

This oasis in the desert has a little bit of something for everyone.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

As the East Coast is being pummelled by some of the coldest weather we have seen all winter, many of us are finding ways to cope through it all. But whether you find yourself gazing at some photo of a tropical destination you have pinned to your cubicle at work or catch yourself watching reruns of beach-themed travel shows when you get home, there is no substitute for an escape during these brutal months. Luckily, United Airlines has introduced a brand-new direct flight from Newark Airport to sunny Palm Springs, California, just in time to thaw out for a little while this winter.

With the whole flight lasting just a little over six hours long, any shred of the travel blues will melt away from your face as you walk out into the inviting open-air layout of the Palm Springs International Airport. Located about 100 miles from Los Angeles, this oasis in the desert has a little bit of something for everyone. But, once you've snapped out of your wonderment as you walk by all of the natural palm trees, what can you do to make the most of your stay in this unique city? Here are some things you will need to check out during your stay in Palm Springs.

Where to stay? The Parker Palm Springs

Just a 10-minute drive from the airport, the Parker Palm Springs resort and hotel lies hidden back from the street behind a barricade of lush vegetation. With famed designer Jonathan Adler acting as the hotel's main creative director, guests will be transported deep into his world. And oh, is it a great world to get lost in.

While walking the 13-acre compound, you will be able to freely pick oranges and grapefruit from the trees providing shade to the hotel's three different pool areas. For food and drink, the Parker is home to some of the best restaurants and most forward-thinking cocktail bars the city has to offer. Whether it's steak and scallops for dinner at the dark and sophisticated Mister Parker's restaurant, or small bites, cocktails and local natural wines at their speakeasy bar, Counter Reformation, the Parker has you covered. And if all of this relaxation sends your alignment out of whack, you can book a massage at the nautical-themed spa and pool area The Palm Springs Yacht Club.

Feed the giraffes at The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens. SCOTT BAXTER

We haven't even talked about the rooms!

Guests will be able to stay in a variety of different rooms including their basic yet luxurious Estate rooms and their private two-bedroom housing unit known as the "Gene Autry."

For availability on rooms, head over to parkerpalmsprings.com.

Palm Springs Architectural Tour

One of the most fascinating bits of history about Palm Springs is that in the mid-1900s it was viewed as a refuge for Hollywood studio actors and stars. This was because the city had put a ban on paparazzi from bothering its local residents. This freedom to just blend in with the scenery led to international stars such as Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley and Liberace to call this quirky desert town home.

With the famous bow-tie-shaped architectural style to allow pedestrians to view the surrounding San Bernardino, Santa Rosa, and San Jacinto mountains with no obstruction, homes in Palm Springs have a vibe that is all their own. Visitors can book their own immersive architectural guided tours with the Modern Tour hosted by Michael Stern, author of "Julius Shulman: Palm Springs" and director and producer of the film "Julius Shulman: Desert Modern."

For booking information, head over to moderntour.com.

Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

As we mentioned before, Palm Springs rests in the bottom of a valley that is surrounded by several different mountain regions. While at ground level the desert terrain of the area gives Palm Springs its famous charm, by scaling to the top of these mountains you will find a different climate altogether. But how will you get up there?

The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway is the world's largest rotating tramcar and the quickest way for visitors to scale up to the cliffs of the Chino Canyon. The 10-minute ride will bring you up to an elevation of 2,643 feet, giving you access to hiking trails and picturesque views of the city. Word to the wise, remember to bring some warmer clothes as the peaks are generally 20 degrees cooler than the valley below.

For more information on the Aerial Tramway, visit pstramway.com.

The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens

Once you've come back down from those tall heights, the Palm Springs Living Desert Zoo & Gardens is the perfect place for the entire family. This botanical garden and zoo focuses on conservation and preservation of animals and wildlife from North America and Africa. Guests can take guided walking and safari tours and even sign up to ride camels and feed giraffes. Let me tell you, from experience, the joy you will feel coursing through your body after feeding a giraffe out of the palm of your hand is hard to beat. For a unique "night out" experience, older guests can enjoy a beverage as they tour The Living Desert for its Brew at the Zoo event on Feb. 9.

For more information on tours and events at the Living Desert Zoo & Gardens, head to livingdesert.org.

Right now, United Airlines is offering direct flights from Newark to Palm Springs until the end of April — just in time for you to make it out for the Coachella music festival a short 45-minute drive away! Roundtrip flights start at $197, so book yours today!

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5 Ways your flight experience could change in 2019

ISTOCK

NerdWallet is a personal finance website.

Every year comes with changes, especially to air travel. Airlines launch, shut down or add products that aren't always customer-friendly.

Here are five trends we predict will change your flight experience for the better and worse in 2019.

1. The front of the airplane gets better; the back of the airplane gets worse

It's no secret that the treatment you get from an airline is directly based on how much you pay for your seat. Airlines have conditioned passengers to this behavior since American Airlines started charging for checked bags in 2008. But this year, the divide could grow.

With the expansion of basic economy fares to international routes and the addition of premium economy seats by American carriers for international routes, the gap between cabin classes is only set to get worse. If you plan on traveling as cheaply as possible, expect to lose your right to check your bags, select your seat and possibly using the overhead bin for luggage. If you are looking for additional amenities, consider a regular- or premium-economy seat.

2. Airports turn to even more technology

The 2019 government shutdown illustrates the need for more technology at the airport. With TSA experiments running successfully, be prepared to see automated technology expand across the country this year. Some of the changes you could see in the near future include:

Biometric scanning: Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport has one completely biometric terminal, which includes facial recognition scanning to enter security checkpoints and boarding aircraft. If successful, it could be expanded to other American airports. Automatic bin retrieval: Automatic security bin retrieval has proved successful in some major airports. To keep manpower focused on security at TSA checkpoints, more airports may use automation to speed up checkpoint lines. ID scanning at TSA checkpoints: At several major airports, ID scanners are used to validate passengers instead of checking government-issued IDs. With additional testing, it could expand to even more airports.

3. Carry-on luggage is the new normal

It's not uncommon to hear agents ask for volunteers to "gate check" luggage to the final destination. That's because more flyers are trying to avoid a fee for checking them. And airlines are adding more boarding groups, making it even harder for those in the back groups to get all their bags onboard with them.

Unless you are boarding your flight in the first groups, carrying on two bags may be a difficult proposition. If you are primarily a discount traveler, consider getting a travel rewards credit card, which may grant you a free checked bag or fee waivers.

4. Customer service will get less human

While technology is adding even more opportunities to the travel space, it's also automating many tasks we would trust to a human. KLM Royal Dutch Airlines uses an automated system to sort and respond to customer service requests, which are reviewed before they are sent out. It's also common to see self-service kiosks replacing customer service agents for flight and seat change requests.

Between technology adding more self-service options and biometric technology getting better, expect to see fewer airline employees at the airport. If you need to speak to someone urgently, call the airline directly or seek out a gate agent who can help with your request.

5. Smaller airlines may continue to consolidate

In the opening days of 2019, Air France announced they would shut down Joon, their boutique airline focused on younger travelers. Meanwhile, low-cost carrier WOW Air continues to cut routes, after their planned merger with Icelandair failed.

Although there appears to be a market for low cost and boutique travel, it's hard to compete with larger airlines offering basic economy seats with larger networks. Before booking a flight on a smaller airline, consider all the costs that come with the ticket and any alternatives you may have. In some situations, the lowest price may not be the best option because of consolidation or route cuts.

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SPORTS

The officiating crew led by Bill Vinovich (above) missed a crucial pass interference penalty that would have clinched a victory for the New Orleans Saints in the NFC Championship Game. GETTY IMAGES

THE NFL IS BROKEN AND THEY DON'T REALLY CARE AT ALL

OPINION

JOE PANTORNO
@JoePantorno

Structurally, the NFL is the worst league in professional North American sports. Sunday's AFC and NFC Championship games further proved that.

Once again, one of the biggest days in sports was marred by poor officiating, puzzling rules and sheer ignorance from the powers that be. And it clearly decided who was going down to Atlanta to meet in Super Bowl LIII.

To put it plainly, the New Orleans Saints and Kansas City Chiefs were done in by a blown pass interference call and a coin toss.

Before you NFL junkies — who like to die on every hill when it comes to defending this league — get after it, I just want to tell you how much I abhor going after officials or technicalities or commissioners. Usually, when those kinds of thoughts creep into my mind I think I'm more deserving of wearing a tinfoil hat and coming up with conspiracy theories in my basement.

However, Sunday provided quite a stain for the so-called most popular sporting league in the United States.

By now, we all know the missed pass-interference call on Rams defensive back Nickell Robey-Coleman gave Los Angeles a free life, which they used to the maximum by winning in overtime.

After the game, Saints head coach Sean Payton received a call from NFL head of officiating Al Riveron saying that Vinovich's crew had gotten the call wrong.

Gee, what consolation. Basically, an incompetent official's incompetent boss said "my bad." That doesn't change the fact that the Rams are going to the Super Bowl instead of the Saints.

It kind of makes you wonder if things would have been called differently if the roles were reversed. After all, the Rams being in the Super Bowl is a huge win for the NFL as they try to grow the game's legitimacy in Los Angeles, a major sports market that has been stubborn to accept the league.

Hold on, let me put my tinfoil hat away.

Then there was the AFC title game. Sure, there was plenty of poor officiating, but the biggest problem with how things ended in Kansas City was that the Chiefs never got a chance to touch the football in overtime.

The NFL's rules for the extra period, in which the game ends if the team that gets the ball first scores a touchdown, basically puts a team's entire season on the chances of a coin toss. It's mind-boggling how in a conference title game, both offenses can't get at least one possession of the football.

You're going to tell me only Brady deserved a chance at getting the ball, and not Patrick Mahomes, because of a coin toss? Neither defense was going to stop either quarterback in overtime Sunday night. It's only logical that, at least for the postseason, the Chiefs got the ball for a chance to force a double overtime.

A variation of this idea has worked in college football for years. How can the NCAA, which is one of the most corrupt organizations on the planet, have this right and not the NFL?

It just doesn't make any sense. And I wish the issues stopped there, but they don't.

A report from ESPN's Adam Schefter on Sunday revealed that former Chiefs running back Kareem Hunt has been receiving interest from "multiple teams," and that he'll be signed by an NFL franchise "sooner rather than later." Hunt was cut by the Chiefs in late November when a video surfaced of him shoving and kicking a woman, actions that should never see the rusher wear an NFL uniform again, at the least.

Yet, this just further proves that if you're talented, the NFL will look the other way on basic human values because the only thing they really care about is the almighty dollar. Anything else some fan or official tells you is a boldfaced lie.

But hey, enjoy the Super Bowl.

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Report: Phils among multiple teams interested in Josh Harrison

The 31-year-old veteran infielder can play a variety of positions.

JOVAN ALFORD
jovan.alford@metro.us

While the baseball world waits to see where both Bryce Harper and Manny Machado will be playing for the foreseeable future, the Philadelphia Phillies are continuing to send out feelers to other free agents.

Outside of the two generational talents, we've heard throughout the offseason that Philadelphia is interested in free agent third baseman Mike Moustakas. However, you can now add another infielder to their target list.

Jon Heyman of Fancred Sports reported last weekend that the Phillies, along with five other teams, are interested in free agent second baseman Josh Harrison.

In addition to playing second base, the 31-year-old Harrison can also play at third base, shortstop and both corner outfield positions.

This past season with the Pittsburgh Pirates was a down year for the veteran utilityman as he slashed .250/.293/.363 with eight home runs and 37 RBIs.

Over his eight-year career, Harrison is slashing a respectable .277/.317/.408 with an OPS of .725. Despite his struggles at the plate in 2018, the veteran infielder did a good job defensively in the field.

At second base, Harrison posted a .982 field percentage with only six errors committed, which was the same as the lg-Fld%. However, that did not matter as the Pirates declined his $10.5 million club option for this upcoming season in exchange for a $1 million buyout.

In regards to Harrison's potential fit with the Phillies, it is tough to see him getting playing time, especially in a crowded outfield without the addition of Harper.

Therefore, what about the infield? Third base could be an option, especially if they cannot land Machado. But it seems like the Phils favor Moustakas, who is a left-handed bat that they could use in their lineup.

Also, you have to factor in Maikel Franco as well, who had a better year at the plate for the Phils. Even though Harrison is a better defensive player at the hot corner (.964 career lgFld%), in comparison to the 26-year-old Franco (.954 career lgFld%), you cannot replace his offense.

Josh Harrison (No. 5) of the Pittsburgh Pirates. GETTY IMAGES

Last but not least, what about second base? As of right now, the Phillies' current starting second baseman is Cesar Hernandez.

Earlier this offseason, it was reported by Jim Salisbury of NBC Sports Philadelphia that Hernandez is available in trade talks, but at the same time, the team will not just give him away. Not to mention, Hernandez agreed to a one-year, $7.75 million contract almost a couple of weeks ago.

With all that being said, Harrison would be a solid bench player for the Phillies, which might be appealing to the veteran. But when you mix in a team such as the Tampa Bay Rays, who could offer him some more playing time, it might make Harrison's decision easier.

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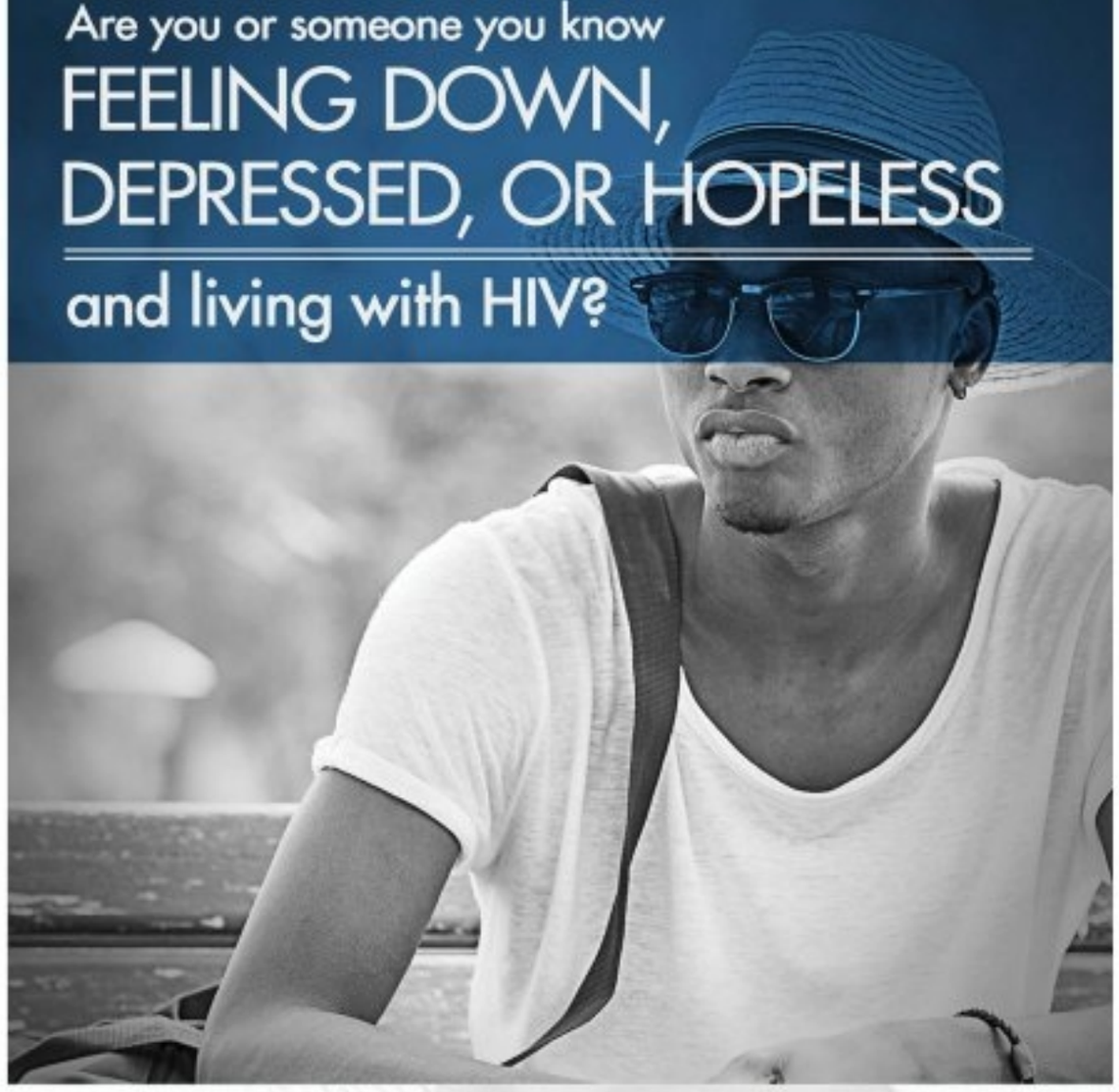

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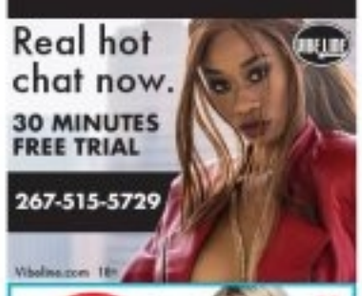

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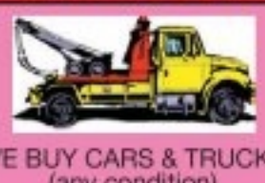

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14 Banishment
15 Tramp
16 Impolite
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20 Drives in reverse
21 Takes a break
22 Vote into office
24 Texter's giggle
25 Chicago gangster Al
27 Labor Day, for one
30 Embrace as one's own
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33 Actor Marvin
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36 "Be quiet!"
37 Kill
38 Journal
39 Staircase parts
40 "Been __, done that"
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46 Decorate
49 Clever
51 2,000 pounds
54 Breathe new life into
56 Dig for ore
57 Musical symbol
58 Dos and don'ts
59 Leave suddenly
60 __ at; imply
61 Toothpaste brand
62 __ minute now; very soon

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5 Precise
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9 Protective plate
10 Pigeon cries
11 Border on
12 Throw
13 Prefix for paid or cooked
18 Close friend
20 Crooked
23 Cuts off
24 Ness or Lomond
25 Pay a __ on; visit
26 "Bye, José"
27 Feminine title
28 Unproven charge
29 Long persistently
31 Small outbuilding
32 Baby dog
34 Peepers
36 Flower stalk
37 Lower leg part
39 Incline; lean
40 Portable shelter
42 Floating freely
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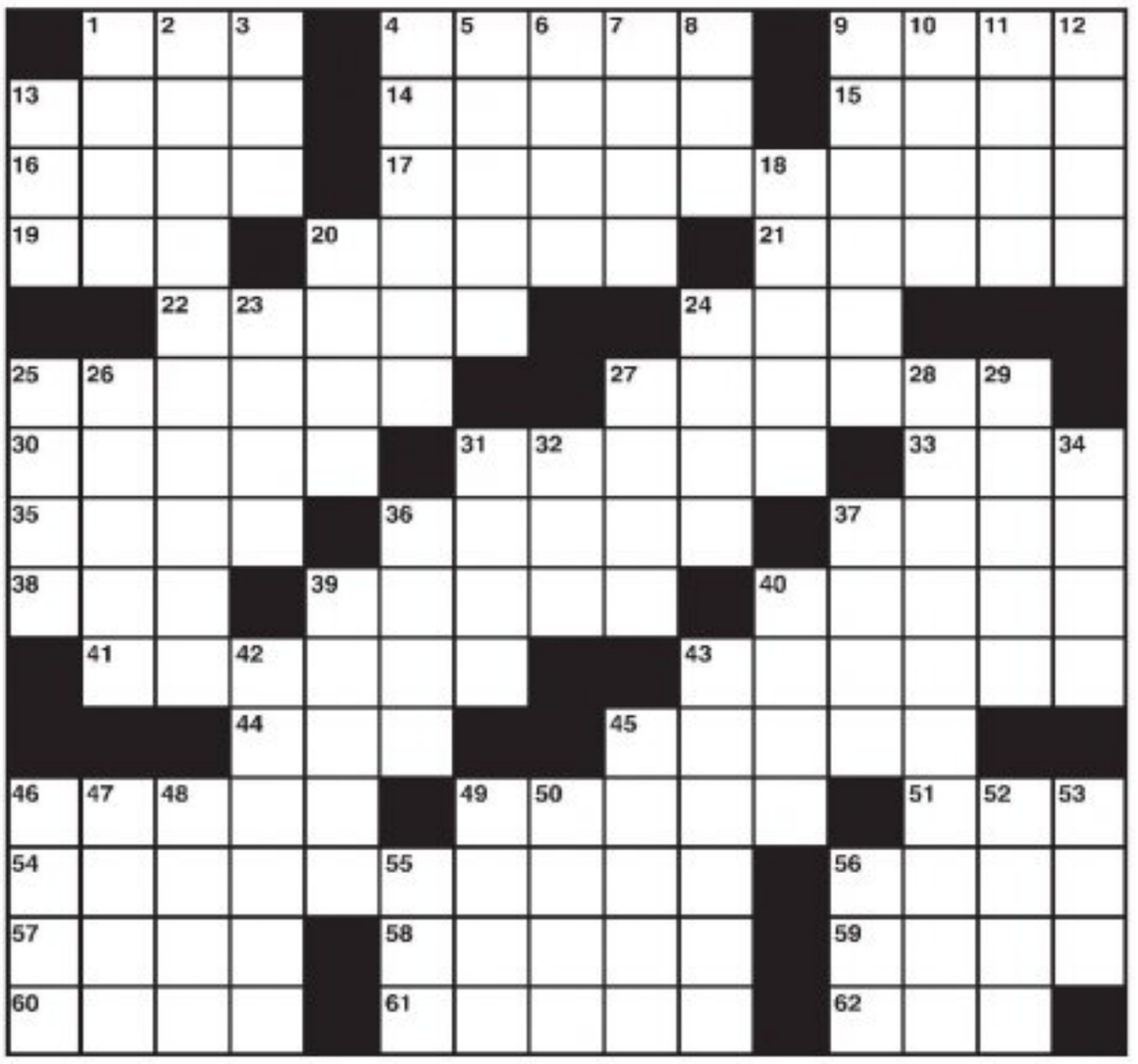

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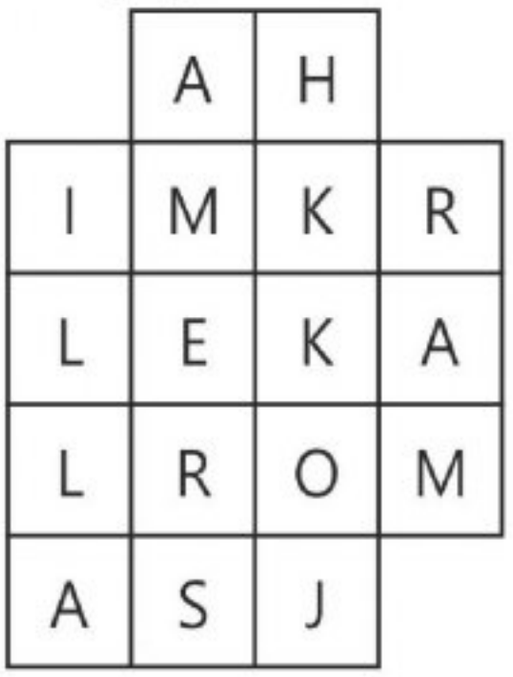

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